

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 136174  
ORIGIN INR-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ARA-10 SS-15 SP-02 PM-05  
NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 PA-01 SSO-00  
INRE-00 ICAE-00 /054 R

DRAFTED BY INR/RAR:DSMITH  
APPROVED BY AF/S:LMACFARLANE  
INR/RAR:HESTEP  
AF/S:KMCCORMICK  
INR/RAF:CTHORNE  
INR/RSE:RFARLOW,JCOLLINS  
INR:MPACKMAN  
ARA/CCA:WSMITH

-----014067 301645Z /64  
O 301620Z MAY 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MASERU IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 136174

NO FORN

E.O. 11652: X-GDS-2

TAGS: PINR, PEPR, LT, CU

SUBJECT: CUBAN, SOVIET AND GDR INVOLVEMENT IN SHABA  
INVASION

REF: MASERU 1100

1. WE HAVE NO RELIABLE EVIDENCE TO CONFIRM REPORTS THAT  
CUBAN, SOVIET OR EAST GERMAN PERSONNEL ACTUALLY ACCOM-  
PANIED THE KATANGANS INTO ZAIRE. THERE IS EVIDENCE,  
HOWEVER, OF RECENT CUBAN AND EAST GERMAN TRAINING AND  
ASSISTANCE TO THE KATANGANS IN ANGOLA AND OF CUBAN

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PAGE 02 STATE 136174

(AND ANGOLAN) FOREKNOWLEDGE THAT THE INVASION WOULD TAKE  
PLACE.

2. IN DISCUSSING THIS QUESTION WITH HOST GOVERNMENT  
OFFICIALS AND LOCAL DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY, EMBASSY SHOULD  
LIMIT COMMENTS TO POINTS MADE IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S  
STATEMENT OF MAY 25: "THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA MUST BEAR

A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEADLY ATTACK WHICH WAS  
LAUNCHED FROM ITS TERRITORY. AND IT'S A BURDEN AND A  
RESPONSIBILITY SHARED BY CUBA. WE BELIEVE THAT CUBA HAD  
KNOWN OF THE KATANGANS PLANS TO INVADE AND OBVIOUSLY DID  
NOTHING TO RESTRAIN THEM FROM CROSSING THE BORDER. WE

ALSO KNOW THAT THE CUBANS HAVE PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN  
TRAINING AND EQUIPPING THE KATANGANS WHO ATTACKED."  
VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 136174  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 INR-10 /043 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:AF/C:RKATES  
APPROVEE BY:AF/C:LDJUNIOR  
EUR/EE:DJOHNSON  
ARA:CCA:DBOWEN  
INR/RAR:DSMITH  
INR/RAF:TTHORNE

-----065920 031043Z /15

R 030610Z JUN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

S E C R E T STATE 136174

NOFORN

FOL STATE 136174 SENT ACTION MASERU MAY 30, 1978 REPEATED  
TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 136174

NO FORN

E.O. 11652: X-GDS-2

TAGS: PINR, PEPR, LT, CU

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REF: MASERU 1100

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PAGE 02 STATE 136174

CUBAN, SOVIET OR EAST GERMAN PERSONNEL ACTUALLY ACCOMPANIED THE KATANGANS INTO ZAIRE. THERE IS EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, OF RECENT CUBAN AND EAST GERMAN TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE TO THE KATANGANS IN ANGOLA AND OF CUBAN (AND ANGOLAN) FOREKNOWLEDGE THAT THE INVASION WOULD TAKE PLACE.

2. IN DISCUSSING THIS QUESTION WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND LOCAL DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY, EMBASSY SHOULD LIMIT COMMENTS TO POINTS MADE IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT OF MAY 25: "THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA MUST BEAR A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEADLY ATTACK WHICH WAS LAUNCHED FROM ITS TERRITORY. AND IT'S A BURDEN AND A RESPONSIBILITY SHARED BY CUBA. WE BELIEVE THAT CUBA HAD KNOWN OF THE KATANGANS PLANS TO INVADE AND OBVIOUSLY DID NOTHING TO RESTRAIN THEM FROM CROSSING THE BORDER. WE

ALSO KNOW THAT THE CUBANS HAVE PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN TRAINING AND EQUIPPING THE KATANGANS WHO ATTACKED."  
VANCE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, INVASIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** X2  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** NOFORN  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** CUBAN, SOVIET AND GDR INVOLVEMENT IN SHABA INVASION  
**TAGS:** PINR, PEPR, MASS, LT, CU, UR  
**To:** MASERU  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/951f8ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014